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EXAMINER

LY, ANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/943,786

Applicant(s)

SIMPSON ET AL.

Examiner

Anh Ly

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-41 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is response to Applicants' RESPONSE filed on 09/06/2005.
2. Claims 21-41 are pending in this application.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 09/06/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued that, "Prompt and Schneck, alone or combination, do not render "search the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category." (Page 10, 10-14, Page 11, lines 3-6 and lines 20-25).

Schneck et al. Of 6,260,039 (hereinafter Schneck) teaches Admin Interface (fig. 1, item 106), which permits access by an administrator and a web browser (item 108) which permits access by a user. Both ADMIN Interface and Web Browser are for accepting a user's input to search or retrieve or access or view the directory (LDAP directory tree having a plurality of object classes, that is, searching the directory information base don the category: see fig. 4, item 408, get object class via LDAP, col. 5, lines 32-48 and col. 6, lines 30-45) or directory class based on the search criteria or category (col. 3, lines 22-52) of the two or more or disparate directories (col. 1, lines 20-40). Also, Prompt et al. of 2001/0034733 A1 (hereinafter Prompt) teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and

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program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266). LDAP can be used to enable queries and updates to be made to a directory structure (sections 0014, 0018, 0020, 0022 and 0026-0027).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

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consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 21-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,260,039 issued to Schneck et al. (hereinafter Schneck) in view of Pub. No.: US 2001/0034733 of Prompt et al. (hereinafter Prompt).

With respect to claim 21, Schneck teaches the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories (directory tree has a root and parent and children nodes or object classes or categories and sub-categories: abstract, figs 5-7; col. 2, lines 20-35 and col. 5, lines 22-48);

an administrator utility with the directory shell configurable to associate the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories (using admin interface for administrator with the web interface for web browser for a user to access the directories having object classes in the directory tree: fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-40 and lines 44-67; also see col. 15, lines 32-60), the result of associating the directory classes being a user-searchable category (the search results from the searching of LDAP directory tree containing of object classes enabling for a user to search/retrieve or to obtain user-searchable category: col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12); and

a directory browser with the directory shell whereby users can search the directory classes with a single query of the user-searchable category (using web interface or web browser or Admin interface to search the directory information on the

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LDAP directory tree having a plurality of object classes, that is, searching the directory information base don the category: see fig. 4, item 408, get object class via LDAP, col. 5, lines 32-48 and col. 6, lines 30-45).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust, secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach a directory shell able to reference two or more disparate directories each having a directory class.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be

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displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 22, Schneck teaches a computer system as discussed in the claim 21. Also Schneck teaches a plurality of servers in communication with a computer (fig. 1, items 102 and 104, X.500 and LDAP are servers to communicate with web browser via x.500 gateway: col. 3, lines 25-40 and lines 52-67 and col. 4, lines 10-40, fig. 2).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust, secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach two or more disparate directories.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 23, Schneck teaches a computer system as discussed in the claim 21. Also Schneck teaches including a directory interface operable to send the single request to the two or more disparate directories (via the ADMIN interface or web browser interface, a client send a search request to the servers, X.500 and LDAP directory tree having two or more disparate directories: col. 4, lines 15-40).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust, secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach two or more disparate directories.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to



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be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 24, Schneck teaches including a director driver for each of the two or more disparate directories to allow the directory interface to communicate Therewith (fig. 1, web toX.500 gateway, x.500 DSA and LDAP server).

With respect to claim 25, Schneck teaches wherein the user-searchable category includes a category attribute mapped to one or more class attributes of the directory class (col. 2, lines 20-35, col. 6, lines 1-38).

With respect to claim 26, Schneck teaches wherein the directory browser includes one of a list panel and a details panel where users can view search results of the single query (using web interface to retrieve the directory information and the result is enabling to be viewed: col. 3, lines 25-52).

With respect to claim 27, Schneck teaches wherein the administrator utility further includes a table for associating the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of directories (see fig. 1 and col. 15, lines 12-60).

With respect to claim 28, Schneck teaches providing a directory shell with an administrator utility and a directory browser for loading onto a computer (fig. 1 and web interface, admin interface, web browser, col. 3, lines 22-67);

enabling the administrator utility to associate directory classes into a single user-searchable category (using admin interface for administrator with the web interface for web browser for a user to access the directories having object classes in the directory tree: fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-40 and lines 44-67; also see col. 15, lines 32-60; the search results from the searching of LDAP directory tree containing of object classes enabling for a user to search/retrieve or to obtain user-searchable category: col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12); and

from the directory browser, enabling direct searching of the directory classes with a single query of the single user-searchable category (with the web interface for web browser for a user to access the directories having object classes in the directory tree: fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-40 and lines 44-67; also see col. 15, lines 32-60; the search results from the searching of LDAP directory tree containing of object classes enabling for a user to search/retrieve or to obtain user-searchable category: col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust,

secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach two or more disparate directories.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 29, Schneck teaches wherein the enabling further includes mapping a category attribute of the single user-searchable category to one or more

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class attributes of the directory class (col. 6, lines 52-67 and col.7, lines 1-12 and col. 8, lines 6-32).

With respect to claim 30, Schneck teaches including displaying search results of the single query on a panel of the directory browser (col. 6, lines 66-67 and col. 7, lines 1-12 and lines 18-32).

Claim 31 is essentially the same as claim 28 except that it is directed to a computer readable medium rather than a method, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 28 hereinabove.

With respect to claim 32, Schneck teaches a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers, each with a directory class (web browser is a program or a shell program from which a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: fig. 1, item 108, col. 3, lines 22-42; also see col. 1, lines 35-40), the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories (directory tree has a root and parent and children nodes or object classes or categories and sub-categories: abstract, figs 5-7; col. 2, lines 20-35 and col. 5, lines 22-48), the directory shell having an administrator utility and a directory browser (fig. 1, col. 3, lines 25-52: Admin Interface and Web Browser);

a table in the administrator utility configurable to associate the directory class

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in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories (fig. 1, and col. 2, lines 20-35 and col. 5, lines 22-48; using admin interface for administrator with the web interface for web browser for a user to access the directories having object classes in the directory tree: fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-40 and lines 44-67; also see col. 15, lines 32-60), the result of associating the directory classes being a user-searchable category (the search results from the searching of LDAP directory tree containing of object classes enabling for a user to search/retrieve or to obtain user-searchable category: col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12);

a query portion in the directory browser whereby users can directly search the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category (search request to search the category of directory tree of LDAP directory tree: col. 6, lines 1-45 and col. 7, lines 18-32; also see fig. 13C); and

a panel in the directory browser where users can view search results of the single query (viewing the directory information: col. 3, lines 25-52).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust, secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach two or more disparate directories.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the

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directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 33, Schneck teaches wherein the query portion and the panel are on a same page of the directory browser (col. 6, lines 1-45 and see fig. 13C).

With respect to claim 34, Schneck teaches wherein the table includes one or more check boxes for the associating of the directory classes (col. 12, lines 57-67 and col. 13, lines 1-28).

With respect to claim 35, Schneck teaches wherein the table includes an enable column to indicate directory classes associated with the user-searchable category (mapping attributes: col. 6, lines 66-67, col. 7, lines 1-32 and col. 8, lines 6-32).

With respect to claim 36, Schneck teaches wherein the administrator utility and

directory browser is formatted to be displayed in HTML format (displaying in HTML format: col. 7, lines 18-48 and col. 8, lines 32-45; also see figs 10-12).

With respect to claim 37, Schneck teaches creating a single user-searchable category from directory classes (creating a search form: col. 12, lines 28-45); and

directly searching the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category, the directly searching substantially avoiding creating or using a virtual directory (search request sends to LDAP directory tree having one or more disparate directory to be searched: the web interface for web browser for a user to access the directories having object classes in the directory tree: fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-40 and lines 44-67; also see col. 15, lines 32-60, and the search results from the searching of LDAP directory tree containing of object classes enabling for a user to search/retrieve or to obtain user-searchable category: col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12).

Schneck teaches administration interface from which a user, an administrator, permits accessing retrieving, searching information and resources in scalable, robust, secure messaging directories and can publish multiple views of such information or directories. Schneck does not clearly teach two or more disparate directories.

However, Prompt teaches one or more different virtual directories, which are displayed using browser format by using a web browser, a piece of software, a separate program, that interface between user and program in the operating system such as a interface shell program for accessing or navigating or retrieving or searching the directories. a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a directory to

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be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: figs 9, 34 and 44; sections 0312 and 0265-0266).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Schneck with the teachings of Prompt, wherein the LDAP directory tree including a plurality of object classes of the directory class in the system provided therein (Schneck's figs 5-7), would incorporate the use of directory tree having more than two different directories to be displayed, in the same conventional manner as described by Prompt (sections 0312, and 0255-0266). The motivation being to ease for displaying, retrieving, searching and protecting system resources.

With respect to claim 38, Schneck teaches wherein the creating further includes associating, in an administrator utility, the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories (fig. 1 and col. 3, lines 25-52).

With respect to claim 39, Schneck teaches wherein creating further includes creating additional user-searchable categories for additional directory classes of the two or more directories (col. 14, lines 28-36 and lines 58-67 and col. 15, lines 1-12).

With respect to claim 40, Schneck teaches wherein the creating further includes providing a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers having the two or more disparate directories (web browser is a program or a shell program from which a user is able to enter a command or search query or select a



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directory to be view the LDAP directory tree, which is a way to provide containers for storing different types of information and these disparate directories in LDAP server provide universal access through well-defined interfaces: fig. 1, item 108, col. 3, lines 22-42; also see col. 1, lines 35-40 and directory tree has a root and parent and children nodes or object classes or categories and sub-categories: abstract, figs 5-7; col. 2, lines 20-35 and col. 5, lines 22-48).

Claim 41 is essentially the same as claim 37 except that it is directed to a computer readable medium rather than a method, and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 37 hereinabove.

### ***Conclusion***

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

**Contact Information**


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV or fax to (571) 273-4039. The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107 or **Primary Examiner Jean Corrielus (571) 272-4032.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to: Central Fax Center (571) 273-8300

ANH LY  
NOV. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005

  
JEAN CORRIELUS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER